



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
|  |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/617,707-Conf. #4186 |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date              | July 14, 2003          |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Hiroshi MAEDA          |
|  |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2822                   |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | M. M. Trinh            |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 0649-0911P             |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
| MA                    | AA                       | US-5,436,492-A                           |                                | Yamanaka   |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |                |
| MA                       | BA                       | JP-05110960A  | 04-30-1993                        | OGYU HISAO   |   | ✓              |
| MA                       | BB                       | JP-63029974A  | 02-08-1988                        | KUBOTA SHIGERU                                     |   | ✓              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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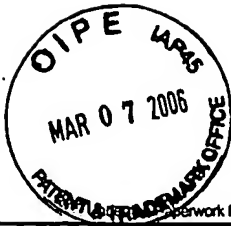
<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | Michael Trinh | Date<br>Considered | 3/06 |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|------|

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

MSW/REG/adt

A.B.C.



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| Examiner<br>Signature | Michael Trinh | Date<br>Considered | 3/06 |
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